BCPharmaCare Newsletter *April 18, 2007 Edition 07-002*

QuickLinks

Insulin Cartridges—Clarification 1
Price for Fenofibrate Tab 160mg LCA Category—Correction 1
Correct Quantities for Claims 1
Implementation of Methadone Prescribing Status on PharmaNet 2
Special Services Fees 2

INSULIN CARTRIDGES—CLARIFICATION

In PharmaCare Newsletter 07:001, "cartridges" were included in the list of diabetic supplies that PharmaCare does not cover.

Please note that *pre-filled* insulin cartridges ARE eligible for PharmaCare coverage.

PRICE FOR FENOFIBRATE TAB 160MG LCA CATEGORY—CORRECTION

The LCA price for all partial LCA products in this category should be $ 0.7912.

CORRECT QUANTITIES FOR CLAIMS

A detailed list of the correct quantities to use when submitting claims to PharmaCare is now available on the PharmaCare website. The list includes many commonly prescribed injectable medications and other products.

To access the list, visit our homepage (www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme) and select **Correct Quantities** from the Contents menu on the left-hand side of the page.

If you would like to request the addition of a specific product to this online list, please send an e-mail to pharma@gov.bc.ca.

Subscription Service—PharmaCare Newsletter

Would you like to be notified by e-mail when a newsletter or bulletin is posted on the PharmaCare website? Sign up for our e-mail notification service and read newsletters and bulletins online.

Already subscribed to the service? If your e-mail address changes, please unsubscribe your old address before subscribing with your new e-mail address.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, visit the PharmaCare website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme. Towards the bottom of the home page, click on Subscription Service.

If you are receiving printed copies of the newsletter that you no longer need, please call the PharmaNet HelpDesk and ask to be removed from the 'hard copy' mailing list.

IMPLEMENTATION OF METHADONE PRESCRIBING STATUS ON PHARMANET

As described in PharmaCare Newsletter 07-001, methadone prescribing is restricted to physicians holding a specific exemption under Section 56 of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*. Physicians require a separate and distinct exemption to prescribe for each indication—pain control, opioid dependency, or both. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia (CPSBC) administrates authorization for physicians to prescribe methadone for pain and/or opioid dependency in keeping with the Act.

Effective **April 23, 2007**, PharmaNet will apply physician prescribing status information to methadone claims submitted on PharmaNet.

It is important to correctly identify the product as prescribed for pain or dependency—by using the appropriate DIN or PIN—as it is the combination of this information with the prescriber's College ID that allows a claim to adjudicate.

If the physician is not authorized to prescribe methadone for the purpose indicated on the prescription ("pain" or "maintenance"), PharmaNet will:

- reject the prescription
- send the message **174 – Transaction not processed, prescriber not authorized to the pharmacy**.

As the rejected prescription cannot be dispensed, the claim will not be adjudicated and will not be recorded on a patient's PharmaNet record.

If a methadone prescription is rejected, please check that you have entered the correct:

- Physician College ID (not the MSP Billing #)
- Methadone DIN or PIN

A list of methadone PINs is provided in Section 6.3 of the PharmaCare/PharmaNet: Policies and Procedures available online at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme/generalinfo/policy/.

In rare instances, the most recent daily data load from the CPSBC may not have included a newly authorized prescriber's information. To confirm a prescriber's status, you may wish to contact staff at the CPSBC Drug Programs at 604-733-7758 or 1-800-461-3008.

Please note that the PharmaNet HelpDesk cannot change a physician's methadone status on PharmaNet. This change can be made only by the CPSBC.

SPECIAL SERVICES FEES

The number of Special Services fees paid by PharmaCare over the past twelve months are:

Mar 2007	3,135	Sep 2006	3,505
Feb 2007	2,777	Aug 2006	3,361
Jan 2007	2,653	Jul 2006	3,038
Dec 2006	4,462	Jun 2006	3,273
Nov 2006	4,425	May 2006	3,255
Oct 2006	3,715	Apr 2006	2,761